



**Veterans Health
Administration**
VA NEBRASKA-WESTERN IOWA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

News Release

Office of Public Affairs 4101 Woolworth Ave
Media Relations Omaha, NE, 68105
Contact: Office: (402) 995-4719
Will Ackerman Cell: (402) 332-6780
Public Affairs Director Email: William.Ackerman@va.gov
www.nebraska.va.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 11, 2015

Veterans Affairs, Seniors Foundation to Host Public Town Halls

LINCOLN, Neb., June 11, 2015 – Two town halls will be held June 16 to update veterans and the community about the progress of the enhanced-use lease for the Department of Veterans Affairs Lincoln medical campus at 600 S. 70th St.

A town hall will be held at 5 p.m. in the auditorium at the Lincoln VA for veterans and their families and veteran service organizations. A second town hall will be held at 7 p.m. in the Lincoln VA auditorium for the general community and other interested individuals.

VA previously selected Seniors Foundation to have primary responsibility to develop the Lincoln Veterans Affairs campus under the EUL process, according to Don Burman, director, VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System. The VA and Seniors Foundation signed an interim agreement. Negotiations between VA and Seniors Foundation have been ongoing.

“Although the timeframe for negotiations varies based upon the complexity of the details, we are optimistically hopeful that a final lease contract will be executed by this fall,” Burman said. “However, there are many pieces that must fall into place before VA has a final lease contract.”

The EUL process enables the VA to maximize returns of underutilized assets, such as the Lincoln VA campus, by partnering with private or public sector developers. By providing a long-term lease, VA will obtain property development and/or in-kind services in exchange for private-sector development of Lincoln VA’s campus.

Mary Ann Stallings, the Seniors Foundation board president said, “We are pleased the Seniors Foundation and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs have reached an agreement in principle for the redevelopment of the VA campus. The parties are working on a final agreement that would allow construction to begin in the fall of 2015.”

###

About VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System

The VA NWIHCS is a Joint Commission-accredited, level-1c facility, which consists of a tertiary medical center in Omaha, Neb., and two larger clinics in Lincoln and Grand Island – which includes a community living center – five community-based outpatient clinics (CBOC) and one contract clinic. VA NWIHCS is part of the VA Midwest Health Care Network (VISN 23), which serves an estimated veteran population of 161,000 in 101 counties in Nebraska, western Iowa, Kansas and Missouri with an estimated 593,000 annual outpatient visits, and an operating budget of \$334 million as of October 2014.

HONORING SERVICE
EMPOWERING
HEALTH